



COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
MINUTES – MARCH 11, 2010
Human Resources Training Room
575 Administration Drive, Suite 117C, Santa Rosa CA 95403

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Christina Brenner (Vice-Chair), Mary Basham, Jan DeWald, Karen Famini, Jan Kiely (Chair), Donna Roper (Officer at Large), Priscilla Vivio

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Chris Allen

JUNIOR COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Ariana Sturr, Colbi Tresenrider

STAFF PRESENT: Nadine Jaillet

GUESTS PRESENT: Ilka Degast, Alicia Kae Herries

I. CALL TO ORDER – INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS:

Kiely called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Commissioners and staff introduced themselves, giving their name and district. Guests attending were Ilka Degast, from the 2nd District, and Alicia Kae Herries, awaiting appointment for March 16, 2010, as 2nd District Commissioner.

II. CONSENT ITEMS:

Famini motioned to approve the March 11, 2010 Agenda, and the January 14, 2010 and February 11, 2010 Draft Commission Minutes. Basham seconded.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Degast shared that she is a Psychologist with Lomi Psychotherapy Clinic, and is attending to observe.

IV. APPOINTMENTS AND OPENINGS:

Kiely announced the current vacancies are: none in the 1st District, two in the 2nd, two in the 3rd, two in the 4th, and one in the 5th, totaling seven openings.

V. SUPERVISOR COMMUNICATION UPDATES:

- Roper announced there will be a fundraiser birthday party for Supervisor Carrillo.
- Famini has not received communication from Supervisor Brown's office.



- DeWald has seen an increase in women seeking shelter from violence and spoke with Supervisor Carrillo about this.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

Work Plan Update:

Kiely suggested removing the ACCW Liaison report and the Area Agency on Aging Liaison report standing items from the monthly Agenda. Roper motioned to approve this change and Famini seconded. All were in favor.

Vote on Proclamations:

Roper motioned to bring the 2010 proclamations for Women's History Month, Junior Commissioner Recognition, and Women's Equality Day before the Board of Supervisors. Famini seconded. All were in favor.

Scholarship Fund:

A letter requesting donations, to reach the full amount required for a scholarship endowment, has been written and is ready to be sent. Roper asked Jaillet to email the letter to Commissioners and to contacts Vivio provided to Jaillet. Roper also asked Commissioners to pass on to their contacts when they receive from Jaillet. All agreed to do so.

Brown Act Presentation:

Kiely reviewed the following Brown Act points:

1. Any communication to the full Commission as a whole must go through Jaillet, not directly to the entire Commission, unless it is to agree on a meeting date or location.
2. Socially, if there is a quorum of Commissioners present, no commission business may be discussed.
3. The seventy-two hour noticing requirement was explained as seventy-two hours of public access, not necessarily three 24-hour days. Publishing on the internet does not count as required noticing.
4. The Commission can only make decisions on Agendized items. This means public comment can be heard, but the Commission cannot take any action on public comment until the subject is on a future Agenda.

Possible Move to District Attorney's Office:

Kiely has heard nothing further.

Women's History Month Budget:

Discussed under Women's History Month.

Representation Coordinator Event Plans and Budget:

The No Name women's group, led by Susan Moore, is holding an event on May 14, 2010, 5:30PM, Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa. Roper suggested the Commission host this event. Working with the No Name group could be a great community connection for the Commission. Roper estimated that between fifty and one hundred people generally attend this group's events, depending on the topic. As hosts, Roper would like to have the 2007 Executive Summaries of the Report on the Status of Women in Sonoma County available to hand out. Roper did not see the Commission being responsible for decorations. Roper motioned to spend

\$1000.00 or less to host the May 14, 2010 No Name Women's Group event. Famini seconded. All were in favor.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW):

Kiely asked if the Commission wished be a member of the NACW. Cost of membership is \$100.00. Famini stated that membership is appropriate, and Basham agreed, adding that it may be important to go to the NACW July event in Maryland. Brenner also agreed with Famini, and motioned for the Commission to become a member of the NACW. Vivio seconded. All were in favor.

California Working Families Summit:

Roper and Vivio attended. Vivio briefly reported on the speakers and their topics. The Association of California Commissions for Women (ACCW) co-sponsored the event. Roper commented on budget cuts to Cal Works that the Governor is proposing. Roper and Vivio both expressed interest in making the California Working Families Summit statistics more publicly available to Sonoma County residents next year.

VIII. ACTIVITY REPORTS:

Junior Commission (Famini):

Junior Commissioners Sturr and Tresenrider reported on the March 2nd State Capitol field trip. The group met with Aides from Pat Wiggin's office and Jared Huffman's office. Sturr and Tresenrider commented that the Aides endeavored to inspire the Juniors to go into politics, and asked for copies of the their focus group final reports.

Vivio drove one group of Junior Commissioners on the field trip, and reported they were wonderful, eager, and enthusiastic. There were some transportation issues. One Junior originally had planned to ride separately, then went with the group. Another Junior was late arriving, which resulted in her driving herself. All returned to Santa Rosa at 5:15, but one teen was not picked up until 6:15. Vivio requested that next year the adult commissioners be given the parental trip permission slips, which have emergency contact information.

Basham also drove a group of Juniors on the field trip and reported they had some good questions prepared to ask, and expressed a wish for the trip to have been better organized. One 18 year old Junior who rode with Basham is interested in becoming a Commissioner.

Famini confirmed that former Commissioner Acosta will create the 2009-2010 Junior Commissioner Project booklet for the project's final meeting and parent reception on May 4, 2010.

Women's History Month (Basham):

One of the three speakers originally scheduled to present is unable to. New dates and locations have been scheduled for the two remaining speakers. Supervisor Zane will present *Writing Women Back into Politics* on Sunday, March 28, 2010, 3:00 - 4:30PM, at the Finley Community Center, Santa Rosa. Professor Will Spires

will present *Writing Women Back into Music* on Monday, March 29, 2010, 7:00 – 8:30PM, at the Sonoma County Library Santa Rosa Main Branch.

The budget for Women's History Month is \$3000.00. The Finley Center rental cost is \$300.00, with a refundable deposit of \$119.00, and coffee provided. Printing costs are approximately \$250.00 to date. Refreshments will be purchased. The group agreed to give a thank you gift of flowers or a green plant, and a bottle of wine, to each guest speaker.

Both events will have large posters displayed, and quotes from women for the guests to take away. Basham had 500 printed flyers available to hand out. Jaillet will electronically scan the flyer and email to Commissioners, and Basham asked Commissioners to then forward the information on to their email contacts.

For celebration of Women's History Month in 2011, Basham shared her idea to host a tea honoring two to three women in the county, and charging an admission fee, with proceeds going toward the Commission's scholarship fund.

Community Issues Liaison & Coordinators:

- ◇ **ACCW (Association of California Commissions for Women):**
No report. This Liaison report will be discontinued as a regular agenda item.
- ◇ **AAA (Area Agency on Aging):**
No report. This Liaison report will be discontinued as a regular agenda item.
- ◇ **Career Technical Education and Non-Traditional Career Liaison (Brenner):**
Brenner motioned to deactivate the Career Technical Education and Non-traditional Career Liaison position until a time when a Commissioner can reactivate it. Famini seconded. All were in favor.
- ◇ **Domestic Violence Liaison (DeWald):**
DeWald will report next month.
- ◇ **Human Trafficking Liaison (Brenner):**
Brenner is mentoring two Ursuline high school students who will be screening "Call and Response" a human trafficking movie. The screening and panel discussion will be held in the Merlot Theater at the Wells Fargo Center.
- ◇ **Legislation Coordinator (Vivio):**
Vivio prepared and distributed a graph on current legislation, attached.
- ◇ **Representation Coordinator (Roper):**
Discussed earlier under Old Business.

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Attendance Report:

The attendance report was distributed.

Budget Report:

The budget report was distributed.

Correspondence:

The mailbag was electronically distributed March 10, 2010.

X. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

There were no additional agenda items for the April meeting.

XI. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Roper will email Rotary clubs to ask if they would like a viewing of the Commission Power point presentation.
- Basham invited Commissioners to attend the Women's History Month events.

XII. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 8, 2010 at 6:00 PM.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Kiely adjourned the meeting at 7:24 PM.